(a) whether it is a fact that violence against women have increased in the country;

(b) the details of cases of rape, molestation and other crimes reported against women during the last two years, State-wise; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to curb such violence against women?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Available information indicates that the incidents of crime against women in 1998 registered an increase of over 8% over the previous year, i.e. 1997.

(b) The information received from the National Crime Records Bureau in this regard is given in Annexure [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 98].

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. As such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system so as to ensure prevention of atrocities against women and other vulnerable sections of the society. The Government of India has also been extending financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure. The Central Government proposes to amend section 376 of the Indian Penal Code so as to provide death as one of the punishments for the offence of rape.

Improvements in the Police Act

†*538. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have constituted any Committee or Commission to suggest improvements in the Police Act;

(b) whether Government are taking any immediate action to enforce stringent punishment against the police personnel involved in trapping innocent citizens in fake cases and violating human rights;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Police is a State subject as per 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to ensure appropriate action against erring Police personnel under the existing laws.

Per Capita Production of Electricity in U.P.

*539. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA' : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.P. State is one of those having lowest per capita production of electricity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Government have any special scheme for supplementing this shortage by the renewable sources of energy;

(d) if so, the detail of such a scheme; and

(e) if not, whether Government would bring any scheme and by when?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The annual per capita consumption of electricity (utilities + non-utilities) for Uttar Pradesh during the year 1997-98 was 194.09 Kwh against an All India average of 349.07 Kwh. During the year 1997-98, the total gross energy generated (utilities + non-utilities) by Uttar Pradesh was 29965.20 Gwh, and the State availed of 14569.5 Gwh power from Central stations in the same year. The projected population of Uttar Pradesh for the year 1997-98 was 161.61 million. The All India generation was 465797.91 Gwh with a projected All India population of 969.02 million for the same year.

(c) to (e) The Government of India has assisted in the setting up of power generation projects in the States from renewable sources such as Wind, Small Hydro Power, Biomass, Solar Energy and Urban and Industrial Wastes. The total installed capacity from renewables in the country is about 1700 MW. The Government provides various fiscal and financial incentives which include concessional excise and custom duties, accelerated 100% depreciation benefits,